



JANE DUNHAM, 85 years old in 1991 (when this photo appeared in THE BEACON-NEWS), was the granddaughter of Mark Dunham, who built the Dunham castle in Wayne, IL in 1883. Mark Dunham was the youngest son of one of the pioneers of Wayne. Unfortunately the article did not mention his name; otherwise we'd stand a good chance of tracing this branch. Jane Dunham is now hostess of the Dunham-Hunt Museum, located in St. Charles. She frequently is called upon to discuss what it was like to grow up in the castle in Wayne, now an exclusive community of some 1500 people, & possibly an almost equal number of saddle horses. (Photo, courtesy of Dorothy Dunham Curtis.)

**SPECIAL NOTICE: HELP NEEDED (DESPERATELY!)**

If any reader has a copy of the Isaac W. Dunham book on the genealogy of the descendants of Deacon John Dunham, please check that book for us now. We have a BIG problem in that the copy purchased for our archives is missing pages 213 through 242. (This is a newly printed copy, reprinted (undoubtedly) from a damaged original.) Since we are in the process of reorganizing and rearranging this volume for greater clarity, we need these missing pages. If your book includes them, or if your local library should have a complete copy, would you please copy those pages for us? Costs of copying will be gladly reimbursed.

PSK

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## BENJAMIN H. CURTISS,

Who passed from the afflictions of this earth to a celestial mansion February 22, 1882, was a native of the Empire State, where he was born December 15, 1819. In his tenth year he came to Monroe county with his parents, Noble Curtiss, who was born November 22, 1775, and Mary (Dunham) Curtiss, born January 28, 1784, and married in their native State (New York) October 7, 1802. On their arrival in Michigan they settled in Monroe, and a few years later moved to Raisinville, where they lived for three years, when they moved to Dundee, to which he afterward platted an addition, and where for over half a century Mr. Curtiss lived the life of an honest, upright man, respected by all his friends and neighbors. There being no educational facilities in Monroe county, he went to the common schools of his native State for a short time and laid the groundwork of an education, which he afterwards built upon by his own application and common sense until he became what might aptly be termed a self-educated man, and known by all his acquaintances as a careful and conservative business man, just in all his dealings with his fellow-men, and whose word was held as good as his bond by all who knew him. In politics he was a Democrat of the old school, and while not a politician in any sense of the word was elected to many important offices, among which was that of county treasurer, to which he was elected for two years, his brother-in-law, Amos T. Heacock, being his deputy, and who was afterwards elected to the same office. For five years he was the shop keeper in the Michigan State's Prison at Jackson, from which position he was promoted to that of deputy warden, which office he held for five years, to the entire satisfaction of the State officials in charge of that institution. During his career at Jackson he suggested many valuable improvements in the management of the prison, which are still cherished by the State board.

His wife, Hannah M. Heacock, to whom he was married December 23, 1844, was born in Seneca county, New York, July 16, 1823, and is the mother of Sidney B. Curtiss, born in Dundee January 20, 1846, the husband of Jane R. Rawson, who was born October 18, 1846. They also have one child, Chloe M. Curtiss, born April 19, 1869. Mrs. Hannah M. Curtiss is the daughter of Samuel C. and Catherine (Lynch) Heacock, both natives of New York, the former born in 1792, and dying November 29, 1850; the latter born in 1799, and dying in Dundee December 26, 1861. While not a member of any church Mr. Curtiss lived



*Benjamin H. Curtiss*

an upright Christian life, and taking the golden rule as his motto was esteemed by all his large circle of acquaintances as a good citizen, a warm friend and a kind husband and father, and his death, which occurred February 22, 1882, was mourned by all who knew him. During his residence of over fifty years in Dundee he was a witness of many of the changes wrought by the march of civilization, and which brought the little hamlet of a few scattering log houses and a score or so of inhabitants into a thriving incorporated village of nearly two thousand souls.

THE HISTORY OF MONROE COUNTY (Michigan) includes this engraving & account of the life of Benjamin H. Curtiss (1819-1882) (9) (Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Eleazer 3, Eleazer 4, Israel 5, Ebenezer 6, Sylvanus 7, Mary Dunham Curtiss 8).





*Arvin's Dupont*  
N. 4.

EDNA DUNHAM (later Mrs. A. R. Willard) (1885-1960) (10) (Deacon John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralph 7, Francis S. 8, Samuel E. 9) had her picture taken more than the average person did, because she was a concert singer, billed as a dramatic soprano. This is one of her many publicity photos, taken ca. 1913.

PLEASE DON'T NEGLECT TO SEND US COPIES OF YOUR OLD OR NEW FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS, OLD FAMILY LETTERS, & NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS PERTAINING TO FAMILY MEMBERS. WE CAN CONTINUE TO SEND THIS FREE NEWSLETTER ONLY TO THOSE WHO SHARE SUCH MATERIALS WITH US. IN FACT, WE CAN CONTINUE THE NEWSLETTER ONLY WITH YOUR HELP! CHARTS APPRECIATED AS WELL, AS THIS ALLOWS US TO EXPAND THE DUNHAM GENEALOGY.



Erle M. Arthur

A trip to the small town of Perry in Shiawassee Co., MI netted us some interesting information dating back to 1912. Erle M. Arthur (1893-1981) (10) (Deacon John 1, Jonathan 2, Daniel 3, Jacob 4, Ebenezer 5, Jacob 6, Mary A. Dunham Lockwood 7, Ferris Lockwood 8, Florence Kate Lockwood Arthur 9) graduated from Perry High School that year. While the Perry Library didn't have the actual yearbooks from the past, they did have a fascinating book that contained one-page recaps of each class, 1912 being the earliest. Only one member of that 4-person graduating class was pictured; luckily for our purposes, it was Erle Arthur! The commencement was held at the City Opera House, & the program for the evening included a piano duet, played by Erle Arthur & no one else. Quite a trick, wouldn't you say?



## MICHIGAN DUNHAMS IN THE CIVIL WAR

Military personnel in the Civil War from the State of Michigan (perhaps from other states as well) are carefully alphabetized & documented in a series of 40-some little books, plus a big, thick index. From this set, we learn that 36 men by the name of Dunham served in the Civil War, & DD presents a list of them here. The numbers following the names represent the pertinent book & page number. Quite a lot can be found by checking these references, such as the man's age & residence at time of enlistment, besides the outfit in which he served. Once his company & division is known, inquiries can be directed to Washington, DC, & war records (military, pension & bounty land) can be purchased. If any reader should have an interest in one of these individuals, DD will be glad to check the references for you.

Albert	2-61	George	9-48	Orson D.	34-48
Azariah	34-48	George C.	26-25	Oscar F.	41-35
Casper	42-136	Hiram	25-25	Ozro	13-48
Charles	32-49	Hiram G.	45-283	Royal S.	3-36
Charles A.	34-48	John A.	19-32	Seneca	20-36
Charles C.	40-56	Jonathan	3-149	Van	45-100
Clagon M.	39-33	Lyman	9-48	William	17-31
Daniel C.	36-48	Manley	9-48	William	31-63
David H.	25-25	Manley	11-125	William	33-54
Edward	21-37	Marcus N.	8-47	William G.	36-48
Edwin R.	43-61	Marshall A	1-39	William H.	17-31
Eldon W.	43-61	Marvin H.	3-36	William H.	40-56

To explain further what information the references will lead to, here are a few examples:

DUNHAM, AZARIAH: 4th Cavalry; enlisted 2-11-1864 at Coe for 3 years; Age 44; Discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability at Grand Rapids 7-28-1864.

(Because of his disability, a pension record would be a good bet here. Also, it is the pension record which usually has the most genealogical information.)

DUNHAM, CHARLES A.: Company G, 4th Cavalry; enlisted 11-20-1863 at Coe for 3 years; Age 18; Joined regiment at Nashville, Tenn. 2-28-1864; Transferred to Company I 4-2-1864; Discharged at Edgefield, Tenn. 8-15-1865.

(Because Charles & Azariah both enlisted at Coe (a tiny town which may not still be on the map) it would appear that Charles A. & Azariah were pretty close relatives. The 1850 or 1860 census would probably illustrate that relationship.)

DUNHAM, ORSON: Gun Plains (residence); Enlisted Company L 4th Cavalry as Commissary Sergeant 8-14-1862 at Allegan for 3 years; Age 44; Mustered 8-29-1862; Discharged at Nashville, Tenn. 3-18-1863.